

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended) 1. A gas generator comprising an elongated, ~~preferably~~ tubular outer housing (10),

at least one combustion chamber (26, 28) provided therein and filled with a solid propellant (30; 30'),

and at least one igniter unit (16, 18) generating ignition gas for igniting said solid ~~propellant (30; 30')~~ propellant (30; 30') and having an igniter (54) integrated within said igniter unit (16, 18),

said igniter unit (16, 18) being arranged ~~laterally~~ radially and externally on said outer housing (10) ~~and, in relation to said outer housing (10), a preferably~~ said igniter (54) being positioned completely outside of said outer housing (10) and a, with respect to said outer housing (10), radial ignition transfer opening (50, 58) being provided in said outer housing (10), so that said ignition gas generated in said igniter unit (16, 18), before reaching said solid propellant (30; 30'), flowing via said ignition transfer openings (50, 58) into one of a distribution space (40) and an intermediate space (80) arranged outside of said igniter unit (16, 18) and into an interior of said outer housing (10). ~~flows into an interior of said outer housing (10) via said ignition transfer openings (50, 58):~~

Claim 2 (currently amended) The gas generator according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein an ignition transfer opening (58) is provided in said igniter unit (16) in a region of ~~it~~the fastening of said igniter unit (16) to said outer housing.

Claim 3 (currently amended) The gas generator according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein said igniter unit (16, 18) does not project into said combustion chamber (26, 28).

Claim 4 (currently amended) The gas generator according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein said combustion chamber (26, 28) has an axially arranged filling opening.

Claim 5 (currently amended) The gas generator according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein said combustion chamber (26, 28) is constructed without an undercut.

Claim 6 (currently amended) The gas generator according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein said combustion chamber (26, 28) is cylindrical and ~~it~~has a longitudinal direction ~~runs~~running parallel to a central axis (A) of said outer housing (10).

Claim 7 (currently amended) The gas generator according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein said combustion chamber is defined by a combustion chamber wall (32) and

wherein between an inner face of said outer housing (10) and said combustion chamber wall (32) ~~a~~ said distribution space (40) is provided for ignition gas produced by said igniter unit (16, 18), said ignition transfer opening (50, 58) opening into said space (40).

Claim 8 (currently amended) The gas generator according to claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said distribution space (40) extends across an entire axial length of said combustion chamber (26).

Claim 9 (currently amended) The gas generator according to claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said outer housing (10) has outflow openings (44) and an expansion space (42) for gas is provided between said combustion chamber (26, 28) and said outflow openings (44).

Claim 10 (currently amended) The gas generator according to claim 9, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said expansion space (42) extends across said entire axial length of said combustion chamber (26, 28).

Claim 11 (currently amended) The gas generator according to claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said combustion chamber wall (32) is formed by an insert which has a radially inwardly directed indentation to produce said distribution space (40).

Claim 12 (currently amended) The gas generator according to claim 9, ~~characterized in that~~wherein said combustion chamber wall (32) is formed by an insert which has a radially inwardly directed indentation to produce said expansion space (42).

Claim 13 (currently amended) The gas generator according to claim 11, ~~characterized in that~~wherein except for said distribution space (40), said insert lies with an entire surface against ~~said an~~ inner face of said outer housing (10).

Claim 14 (currently amended) The gas generator according to claim 12, ~~characterized in that~~wherein except for said expansion space (42), said insert lies with an entire surface against said inner face of said outer housing (10).

Claim 15 (currently amended) The gas generator according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein said outer housing has outflow openings (44) which are arranged in a region lying diametrically opposite said ignition transfer opening (50, 58), as seen relative to ~~said a~~ central axis (A) of said outer housing (10).

Claim 16 (new) A gas generator comprising an elongated, tubular outer housing (10),

at least one combustion chamber (26, 28) provided therein and filled with a solid propellant (30; 30'), and

at least one igniter unit (16, 18) generating ignition gas for igniting said solid propellant (30; 30'),

said igniter unit (16, 18) being arranged laterally and externally on said outer housing (10) and, in relation to said outer housing (10), a radial ignition transfer opening (50, 58) being provided in said outer housing so that said ignition gas generated in said igniter unit (16, 18) flows into an interior of said outer housing (10) via said ignition transfer openings (50, 58), wherein said combustion chamber is defined by a combustion chamber wall (32) and wherein between an inner face of said outer housing (10) and said combustion chamber wall (32) said distribution space (40) is provided for ignition gas produced by said igniter unit (16,18), said ignition transfer opening (50,58) opening into said space (40), wherein said distribution space (40) extends across an entire axial length of said combustion chamber (26), wherein said outer housing (10) has outflow openings (44) and an expansion space (42) for gas is provided between said combustion chamber (26,28) and said outflow openings (44), wherein said combustion chamber wall (32) is formed by an insert which has a radially inwardly directed indentation to produce said expansion space (42).

Claim 17 (new) A gas generator comprising an elongated, tubular outer housing (10),

at least one combustion chamber (26, 28) provided therein and filled with a solid propellant (30; 30'), and

at least one igniter unit (16, 18) generating ignition gas for igniting said solid propellant (30; 30'),

said igniter unit (16, 18) being arranged laterally and externally on said outer housing (10) and, in relation to said outer housing (10), a radial ignition transfer opening (50, 58) being provided in said outer housing so that said ignition gas generated in said igniter unit (16, 18) flows into an interior of said outer housing (10) via said ignition transfer openings (50, 58), wherein said combustion chamber is defined by a combustion chamber wall (32) and wherein between an inner face of said outer housing (10) and said combustion chamber wall (32) said distribution space (40) is provided for ignition gas produced by said igniter unit (16,18), said ignition transfer opening (50,58) opening into said space (40), wherein said combustion chamber wall (32) is formed by an insert which has a radially inwardly directed indentation to produce said distribution space (40), wherein except for said distribution space (40), said insert lies with an entire surface against an inner face of said outer housing (10).

Claim 18 (new) A gas generator comprising an elongated, tubular outer housing (10),

at least one combustion chamber (26, 28) provided therein and filled with a solid propellant (30; 30'), and

at least one igniter unit (16, 18) generating ignition gas for igniting said solid propellant (30; 30'),

said igniter unit (16, 18) being arranged laterally and externally on said outer housing (10) and, in relation to said

outer housing (10), a radial ignition transfer opening (50, 58) being provided in said outer housing so that said ignition gas generated in said igniter unit (16, 18) flows into an interior of said outer housing (10) via said ignition transfer openings (50, 58), wherein said combustion chamber is defined by a combustion chamber wall (32) and wherein between an inner face of said outer housing (10) and said combustion chamber wall (32) said distribution space (40) is provided for ignition gas produced by said igniter unit (16,18), said ignition transfer opening (50,58) opening into said space (40), wherein said distribution space (40) extends across an entire axial length of said combustion chamber (26), wherein said outer housing (10) has outflow openings (44) and an expansion space (42) for gas is provided between said combustion chamber (26,28) and said outflow openings (44), wherein said combustion chamber wall (32) is formed by an insert which has a radially inwardly directed indentation to produce said expansion space (42), wherein except for said distribution space (40), said insert lies with an entire surface against an inner face of said outer housing (10).

Claim 19 (new) A gas generator comprising an elongated, tubular outer housing (10) centered on a first axis A,

at least one combustion chamber provided in said housing having a charge of solid propellant in the combustion chamber, and

at least one igniter unit generating ignition gas for igniting said solid propellant and having an igniter (54) integrated within said igniter unit (16,18),

said igniter unit being arranged on said outer housing (10) between opposite ends of said outer housing (10) and said igniter (54) being positioned completely outside of said outer housing (10), said igniter unit being centered on a second axis which extends radially relative to the first axis, and a radial ignition transfer opening being provided in said outer housing, said radial igniter transfer opening directing gas flow radially, said ignition gas generated in said igniter unit (16, 18), before reaching said solid propellant, flowing via said ignition transfer opening into one of a distribution space (40) or an intermediate space (80) arranged outside of said igniter unit (16, 18) and in an interior of said outer housing (10).

Claim 20 (new) The gas generator according to claim 19, wherein an ignition transfer opening (58) is provided in said igniter unit (16) in a region of the fastening of said igniter unit (16) to said outer housing.

Claim 21 (new) The gas generator according to claim 19, wherein said igniter unit (16, 18) does not project into said combustion chamber (26, 28).



Claim 22 (new) The gas generator according to claim 19, wherein said combustion chamber (26, 28) has an axially arranged filling opening.

Claim 23 (new) The gas generator according to claim 19, wherein said combustion chamber (26, 28) is constructed without an undercut.

Claim 24 (new) The gas generator according to claim 19, wherein said combustion chamber (26, 28) is cylindrical and has a longitudinal direction running parallel to a central axis (A) of said outer housing (10).

Claim 25 (new) The gas generator according to claim 19, wherein said combustion chamber is defined by a combustion chamber wall (32) and wherein between an inner face of said outer housing (10) and said combustion chamber wall (32) said distribution space (40) is provided for ignition gas produced by said igniter unit (16, 18), said ignition transfer opening (50, 58) opening into said space (40).

Claim 26 (new) The gas generator according to claim 25, wherein said distribution space (40) extends across an entire axial length of said combustion chamber (26).

Claim 27 (new) The gas generator according to claim 26, wherein said outer housing (10) has outflow openings (44) and

an expansion space (42) for gas is provided between said combustion chamber (26, 28) and said outflow openings (44).

Claim 28 (new) The gas generator according to claim 27, wherein said expansion space (42) extends across said entire axial length of said combustion chamber (26, 28).

Claim 29 (new) The gas generator according to claim 25, wherein said combustion chamber wall (32) is formed by an insert which has a radially inwardly directed indentation to produce said distribution space (40).

Claim 30 (new) The gas generator according to claim 27, wherein said combustion chamber wall (32) is formed by an insert which has a radially inwardly directed indentation to produce said expansion space (42).

Claim 31 (new) The gas generator according to claim 29, wherein except for said distribution space (40), said insert lies with an entire surface against an inner face of said outer housing (10).

Claim 32 (new) The gas generator according to claim 30, wherein except for said expansion space (42), said insert lies with an entire surface against said inner face of said outer housing (10).

Claim 33 (new) The gas generator according to claim 19, wherein said outer housing has outflow openings (44) which are arranged in a region lying diametrically opposite said ignition transfer opening (50, 58), as seen relative to said central axis A of said outer housing (10).